A free and independent press is critical to a functional democracy, or representative republic for that matter. The press cannot be independent if all or most media is owned by a handful of corporations with the power to forward their own agenda by censoring and editing diverse points of view. The homogenization of TV News, where CNN is nearly indistinguishable from Fox News, is just one example of what happens when corporate interests prevail. Please protect one of the foundation stones of our open system of government and forbid the cross-ownership of print and broadcast media by the few and powerful. Thank you for your consideration.